

What you need to know

- **The latest:** Vice President Mike Pence said Turkey has agreed to a ceasefire in Syria.
- **The terms:** The Syrian Kurds/Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) must dismantle their defensive fortifications and pull troops from the border to appease Turkey.
- **What this means for the US:** Pence said today the US will "continue to engage" in Syria, but "not militarily."



2:13 p.m. ET, October 17, 2019

Pence says Turkey raised Halkbank indictment after negotiations concluded

From CNN's Sarah Westwood

Vice President Mike Pence said the topic of Halkbank, the state-owned Turkish bank that was indicted Tuesday, came up during ceasefire talks with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.



"When we concluded the negotiations, the topic was raised," Pence said during a news conference in Ankara, Turkey. **"We informed them that this was a matter for the Southern District of New York."**

CNN [reported](#) this week that Erdogan had previously urged President Trump in a phone call to drop a potential DOJ indictment into the state-owned Turkish bank Halkbank. Trump told Erdogan he would have his people look into it.

The US indicted Halkbank on Tuesday on charges related to evading sanctions on Iran.



2:30 p.m. ET, October 17, 2019

Pence: The US will "continue to engage" in Syria, but "not militarily"

From CNN's Nikki Carvajal, Sarah Westwood and Matthew Hoye